

# SAPPH<sup>♀</sup>W<sup>♀</sup>OMAN



and the  
Greater  
Belfast Dykes

# **SAPPHOWOMAN**

## **and the**

# **Greater Belfast Dykes**

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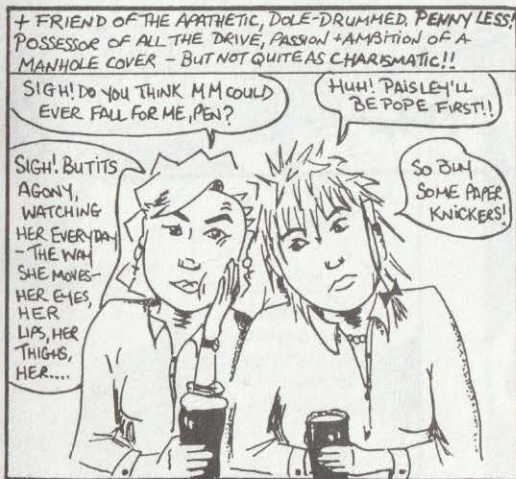
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# SAPHPHOWOMAN



AND INTRODUCING THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE 'MONTHLY CYCLE' COLLECTIVE... MEET VIOLA NICEPOSIE - HUMANITARIAN, VEGETARIAN, PACIFIST + NOT QUITE RADICAL FEMINIST!





MOYA O'FLYNN - ART EDITOR, IN CHARGE OF  
GRAPHICS + UNFORTUNATELY, THE MEDICINE  
CABINET!!

WOW!! HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SUCH COLOURS?  
SO STRONG, SO VIVID, SO VITAL.....

SO WHAT! SOBER  
UPWOMAN! DON'T  
YOU KNOW THERE'S  
A WAR ON?!

BLOODY ARTY-FARTY  
TYPES! WASTE OF SKIN!!

+ LAST BUT NOT LEAST, THE ABSENTEE COLLECTIVE MEMBER, ALL THE WAY FROM SCANDINAVIA, STALWART OF  
C.N.I., GREENPEACE, THE GREEN PARTY, THE SAVE THE WORLD, WHALE, OZONE LAYER, RAINFOREST E.C. ETC. PARTY -  
INGE ~~ABBAN~~ WHO, UNFORTUNATELY, CANNOT BE AT TODAY'S MEETING!...

INGE SENDS HER APOLOGIES, BUT AT THIS  
VERY MOMENT, SHE'S IN GREENLAND WITH  
HER COMRADES, IN THE  
NOBLE CAUSE OF  
SAVING THE WHALES!!

WALES! WHAT A  
COUNTRY! - SO VIVID,  
SO GREEN, SO RESTLESS  
SO WELSH. IT IS A  
GREEN LAND!!

WALES, WALES! DOESN'T  
SHE KNOW THAT HERE IS  
WHERE IT'S HAPPENING!  
HERE ON THE BLOODY  
STREETS OF  
BELFAST!!

SIGH! SOMETIMES  
I FEEL SO TIRED +  
OLD, M.M!

+ SOMETIMES I WISH  
I WAS ON AN ICE FLOE  
WITH INGE!!

+ SOMETIMES COLLECTIVE MEETINGS GO ON + ON + ON!!

# SAPHPOWOMAN MEETS "DESPERATE DYKE!"

LATE ON A SUMMER EVENING, + ALL THE PUBS HAVE CLOSED - WHEN, DRUNKENLY + STAGGERING UP THE ORMEAU RD, WE SEE A WOE BEGONE, DESPERATE DYKE -



- SUFFERING FROM THE DOUBLE BODY BLOW OF FAILING HER END OF TERM EXAMS + UNREQUIRED LOVE FOR HER TUTOR!!

MEANWHILE, ANOTHER WEE, DEPRESSED, DRUNK DYKE STAGGERS DOWN THE ORMEAU ROAD

MM, DOESN'T EVEN NOTICE ME. SNIFF! - I TAPE MY FINGERS TO THE BONE FORMER - + NOTHING - NOT EVEN AN XMAS SNUG UNDER THE MISTLE TOE - CHRISTMAS IS THE ULTIMATE CAPITALIST CASH IN ON COLLECTIVE CHRISTIANITY - SHE SAID!



A MICROSEC. LATER, SAPHPOWOMAN HURTLES THROUGH THE BALMY BELFAST SKIES, INTENT ON SAVING THE DISTRAUGHT DYKE W/ MID-PLUMMET!!



FOR SEVERAL SECONDS THEY SWIRL + SWOOP OVER THE WHIFFY WATERS OF THE LAGAN - UNTIL - SUDDENLY A TRANQUIL MOMENT -





WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, DOESN'T LAST LONG.....!!



ANOTHER CATASTROPHE AVERTED, OUR  
HEROINE, ONCE MORE, TAKES TO THE SKIES.

JEEZ- THIS RIVERS PIGGIN'



WE CAN ALL REST ASSURED THAT WHEREVER THERE'S  
A DYKE IN DISTRESS, A FEMINIST IN A FLURRY, A  
WOMAN IN WORRY + A LESBIAN IN DEEP SHIT -  
SAPPHOWOMAN - WILL BE THERE!!!

FRIG ME! IT'S A BIT SHALLOW, INNIT?

WHY DO I ALWAYS GET  
THE LOOPERS?

I NEVER GET THE INTERNATIONAL  
DIAMOND THIEVES OR THE MAD  
SCIENTISTS TRYING TO CONQUER  
THE WORLD!!



IF IT WASN'T FOR THATCHERITE BRITAIN  
THERE'D BE A PLACE FOR YOU!!

NO NEED TO BE NASTY, - JUST COS YOU  
RUINED YOUR FANCY DRESS COSTUME!  
WELL, I'VE GOTTA GET BACK TO THE  
'ELMS' BEFORE 'LIGHTS OUT'. CHEERIO!

†SO, OUR YOUNG + NOW SUBSIDUED STUDENT  
STUMBLES HOMEWARD - UN-AWARE OF HER  
BRUSH WITH THE SAPPHIC SUPERPOWER!!!

..... SAPPHOWOMAN WILL BE THERE!!



..... SAPPHOWOMAN WILL BE THERE!!!

WELL, WHERE IS SHE? SHE'S MISSED HER  
BLEEDIN' CUE AGAIN. GOD, THESE AMATEURS!!

MEANWHILE, IN ORMEAU PARK...



OH FOR GOODNESS SAKE - SOMEBODY HELP HER  
DOWN!! - FOR A SUPERHEROINE SHE CAN BE  
SUCH A DISAPPOINTMENT SOMETIMES!



# SAPH♀W♀MAN! 000 IN...

"RECLAIM THE NIGHT!"

MARIA MARAUDER HAS ORGANISED A PROTEST MARCH AGAINST MALE VIOLENCE, ABUSE + GENERAL ANNOYANCE TOWARDS WOMEN DURING THE HOURS OF DARKNESS!

THE MARCHERS ASSEMBLE AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY THEN....



...FOREVER ONWARD!!

ALRIGHT WIMMIN! LET'S ROLL!!



PEARL SIDLES UP TO M.M.

GOSH MM - IT'S A GREAT TURNOUT! - I'LL GET LOTS OF PHOTOS FOR THE MONTHLY CYCLE!! - BUT WHO'S THAT??



AND SO THEY FINALLY ARRIVE BEFORE THE LOFTY PORTALS OF THE CITY HALL - JUST AS TROUBLE LOOMS OVER THE HORIZONS IN THE FORM OF THE LOCAL R.U.C. ....



SARGE BACON WARILY APPROACHES HIS OLD ADVERSARY, MARIA MARAUDER.

WELL, WELL - IF IT ISN'T MISS MARAUDER

DON'T YOU MISS ME!

BELIEVE ME I DON'T!

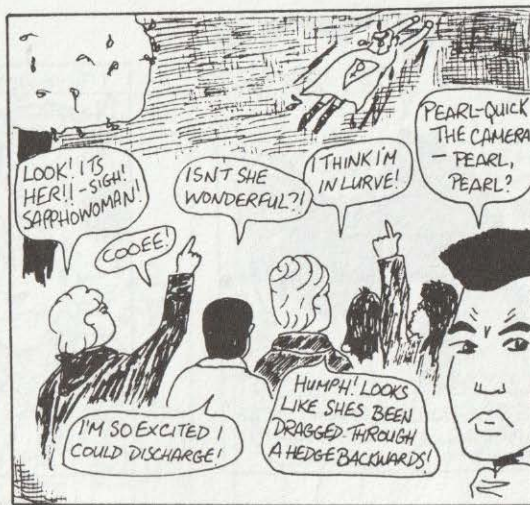
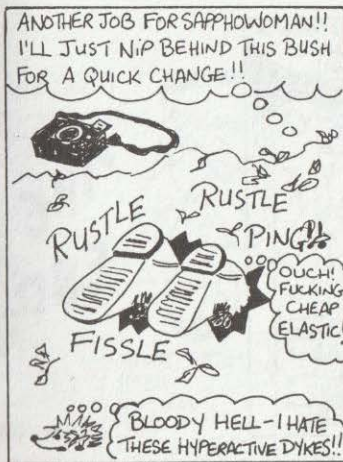








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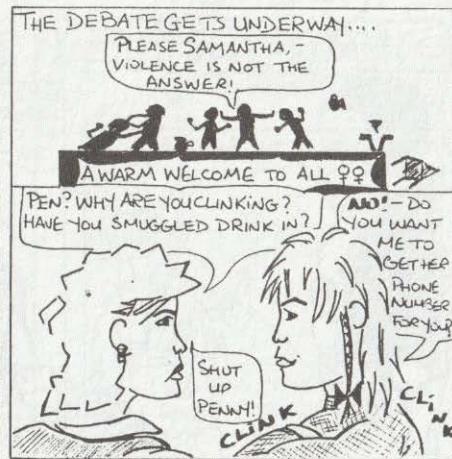


THE  
END...

# THE GREAT S+M DEBATE!











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# MOTHERS MANIC

DOES YOUR  
MOTHER HAVE  
TROUBLE  
ACCEPTING  
YOUR  
SEXUALITY?  
IS SHE THE  
ULTIMATE  
EMOTIONAL  
GUILT-  
TRIPPER?



DOES SHE RESORT TO VOOODOO TO BREAK UP  
YOU + YOUR LOVER?



MAYBE SHE OVER RE-ACTS TO GAY HEALTH ISSUES?!!

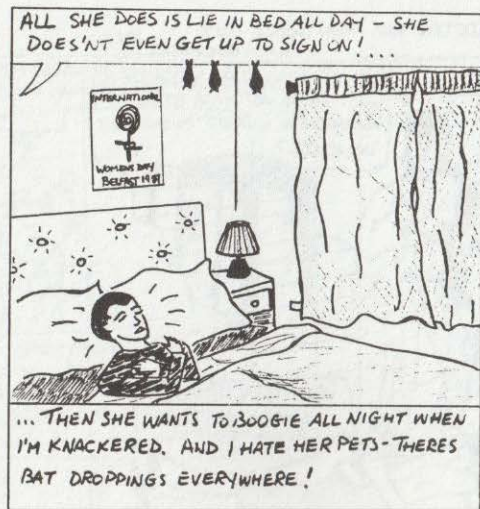
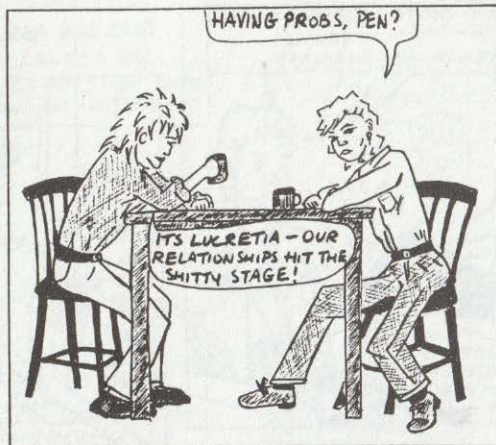


OR DOES SHE DETER YOU FROM GOING OUT  
SOCIALLY?!!

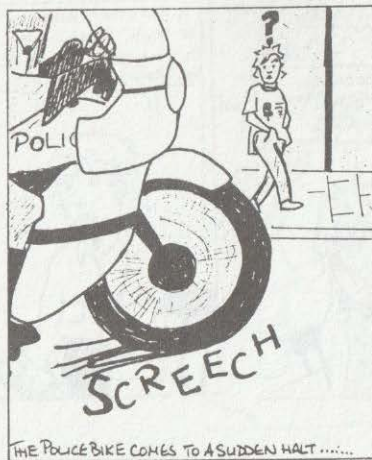




# SAPPHO WOMAN



# SAPPH♀WOMAN



BUT JUST WHO IS THIS BIG, ROUGH, TOUGH POLICE WOMAN BIKER???

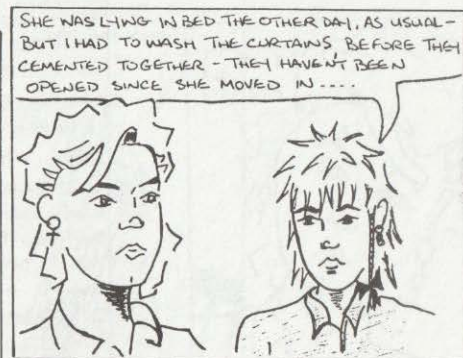
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# SAPHO♀W♀MAN













# Viola Niceposie in .... "A CARING PROFESSION!"



# PEARL'S POWERS

JUST HOW DID PEARL GET HER POWERS?



..... I WAS IN MY LATE TEENS, + THE SUDDEN CENTRE OF ALL MY DYKE FRIENDS ATTENTION!



I MET HER AT THE WHOLE FOOD STORE - SHE TURNED AROUND + SMIRKED AT ME - YOU GET THE PICTURE?



YES! - MADDYKE MONA! - MY FIRST TRUE LOVE! SIGH!! - MY FRIENDS WERE ALWAYS PUTTING HER DOWN.....

HUH! + SHE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHO ALICE WALKER IS!



THEY SAID SHE CAME FROM THE WRONG SIDE OF TOWN....

BUT PEARL, I ASK YOU, BALLYHACKMORE - HOW UNCOOL?





I KNEW IF WE WERE  
EVER GOING TO MAKE  
IT, WE'D HAVE TO  
GET AWAY TOGETHER  
FOR A WHILE - SO  
MONA TOOK ME TO  
HER MOST FABBY  
PLACE EVER, FOR  
THE WEEKEND....  
UPTAMASHUCKIN'  
BOG! ....DEEP IN  
THE HEART OF  
IRELAND!

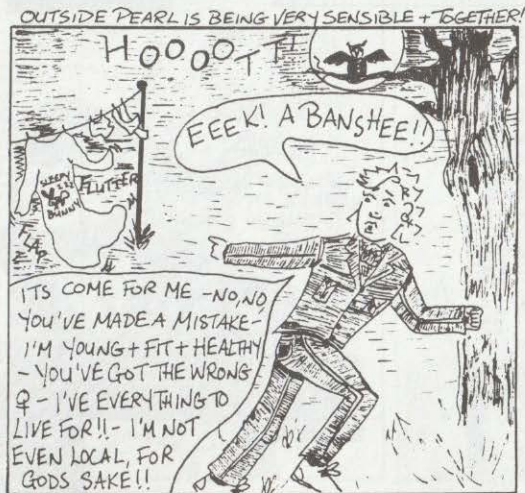




PEARL IS SOON FORGOTTEN AS MONA + BRIDGIT CATCH UP ON LOCAL GOSSIP - LEFT UNATTENDED PEARL'S FEAR + UNEASE GROWS!!!







MEANWHILE... ON AN EVEN  
WILDER, MORE DESOLATE  
PART OF UPTAMASHUCKIN  
BOG, THE LOCAL WITCHES  
COVEN Bi- MONTHLY  
PRO-ANTI-ANGLO-IRISH  
AGREEMENT PROTEST  
MEETING, IS IN PROGRESS  
+ THEY'RE ABOUT TO RECEIVE  
AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR...

HUBBLE, BUBBLE, TOIL + TROUBLE -  
GARRETT'S PLAN WILL COME TO RUBBLE!



EAR OF PIG + RABBITS  
FROWN - HAUGHEY IS  
A WEE BRIT CLOWN!



MAGIC BLACK +  
VOODOO HEX -  
MAGGIE THATCHER  
GETS NO SEX!

THE POLITICAL INTRIGUE ABRUPTLY  
HALTS! YUK! NOT SWEET  
ENOUGH - WE NEED A  
VIRGIN!



ENTER PEARL!



PEARL DROPS IN!!!



(WELL THATS RUINED IT COMPLETELY NOW!





WELL, GET HER OUT -WE'LL  
HAVE TO START AGAW FROM  
SCRATCH - AT THIS RATE THE  
TORIES WILL BE IN ANOTHER TERM!



SUDDENLY -  
FROM OUT OF  
THE FIERY BREW,  
FLIES A  
LESBIAN/FEMINIST  
FORCE ANEW!!!  
SAPPHO -  
WOMAN!!!

I FEEL STRANGE! - SORT OF... CONCERNED... CONCERNED ABOUT... ABOUT...  
WEST LEBANON! - THE PHILLIPINES! ... SOUTH AMERICA!..  
APARTHEID!.. BHOPAL... +YES..  
YES... EVEN THE...



+ SO THE TIME CAME FOR PEARL TO SAY  
ADIEU TO MADDYKE MONA, HER FIRST  
TRUE LOVE!



NAW BABE! THIS IS WHERE I BELONG  
HERE ON THE WILD + WINDY BOG,  
WHERE THERES A DEATH EVERY HOUR!  
BRIGGIT + ME ARE OPENING A FUNERAL  
PARLOUR!! WE'LL BE RICH!!

AS THE TRAIN PULLS OUT...



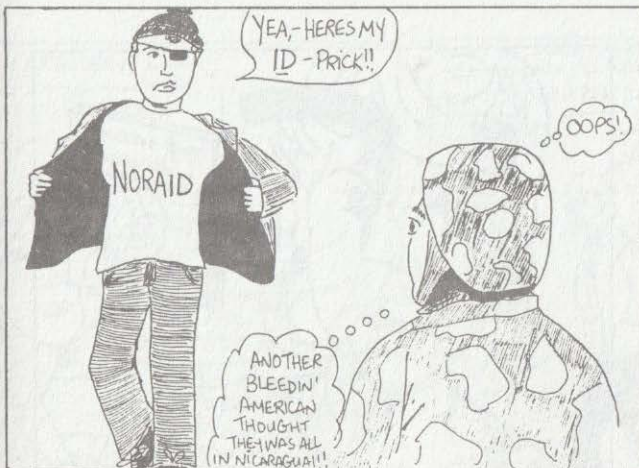
# Milly Tent IN... "BELFAST BLUES!!"

MILLY'S ON HER WAY TO THE POST OFFICE TO SEND ANOTHER DOLLY TO HER MOTHER IN TALLAHASSEE! - SHE'S VERY CLOSE TO HER MOTHER!



SHE IS MOMENTARILY INCENSED BY THE PRESENCE OF TWO MEMBERS OF HER MAJESTY'S ARMED FORCES ON THE PAVEMENT BEFORE HER!!

FURTHER ON MILLY IS STOPPED + HASSLED BY A FLIRTY, SEX-STARVED, JUST LOVE THE GIRLIES, LITTLE GIT!



IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A BIG DISAPPOINTMENT TO MILLY THAT BY THE TIME SHE ARRIVED ON THE WARTORN STREETS OF BELFAST - THEY WERE MORE TORN THAN WARRING - BUT SHE WRITES TO HER MOTHER ONCE A WEEK ANYWAY....



© GUY 89



# MOTHERS MANIC



YOU CAN'T FOOL A MOTHER'S INTUITION!



© 85 GMC

# SAPP<sup>Q</sup>W<sup>Q</sup>MAN + A NIGHT ON THE TILES!!



AND SO TO THE LOCAL Qs BAR... THE HOODED LADY!!



















# ON THE ROAD TO CORK!

A BRIGHT, BRISK, MAY MORNING + WE SEE OUR HEROINES  
SQUEEZED INTO MILLY'S OLD BANGER, SETTING OUT ON  
ANOTHER GLORIOUS ADVENTURE, WITH HAPPY HEARTS +  
WHOLESONE SINGING....

♪ HERE WE GO - HERE WE GO ♪  
HERE WE GO O O ♪



BUT WHY ARE THEY  
SO GAY?! WHAT  
IS THE REASON  
FOR ALL THIS  
MERRIMENT??!  
COULD IT BE THE...

# CORK

♀'s

FUN  
WEEKEND??

BUT WILL THEY EVER ARRIVE?!

STOP!  
CUSTOMS CHECK

ANYTHING TO DECLARE  
DARLIN'S?

YEA, - YOU'RE UGLY!



CUSTOMS OFFICERS ARE NOT RENOWNED FOR THEIR HUMOUR!



+ So A  
FEW HOURS  
LATER-  
♪ HERE WE  
GO ♪  
AGAIN....  
OR DO WE?

♪ HERE WE DON'T... HERE WE DON'T ♪  
... HERE WE DON'T... ♪





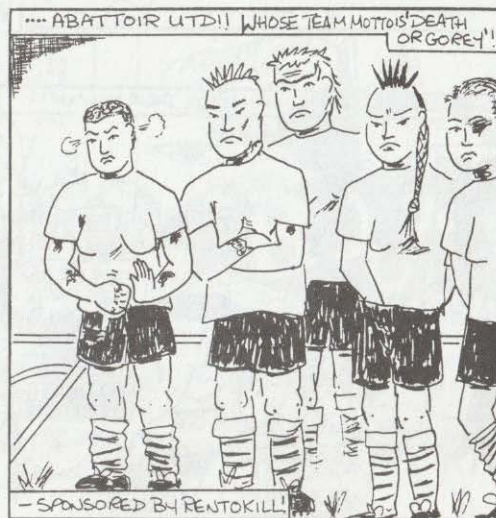
AT LAST THEY ARRIVE IN CORKS FAIR CITY, WHERE THE DIKES ARE SO PRETTY....+ IT'S PARTY TIME!!! - LETS PLAY 'SPOT THE WALLFLOWER'!!!



THE NEXT DAY DAWNS BRIGHT + CLEAR - UNLIKE OUR HEROINES HEADS!! - AND SO TO MARDYKE PARK WHERE A FRIENDLY GAME OF FOOTBALL IS ABOUT TO COMMENCE. HERE WE SEE THE BELFAST ♀♀ VS. THE REST OF THE WORLD! (WELL ITS ONLY FAIR!!) THE AIR IS FILLED WITH EXCITED ANTICIPATION + WARM SMILES!!



VS.









AND THEN  
THERE WERE  
THE  
**WORKSHOPS**







# M.M. + Viola... 'GO FOR A PINT!!!'

MM+VIOLA HAVE NIPPED OUT FOR A LONG COOL PINT.... + ONE OF MM's LECTURES ON VIOLA'S RETROGRADE LESBIANISM!! OH LUCKY VIOLA!!



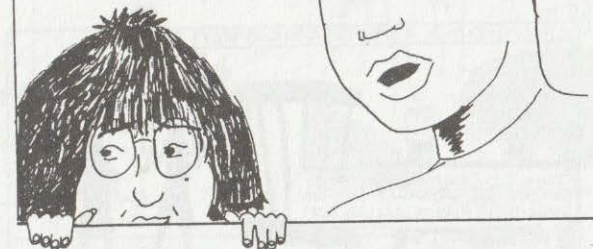
MM, OVERCOME WITH RHETORIC, LEAPS INTO POLITICAL ACTION! VIOLA, OVERCOME WITH MORTIFICATION, SLINKS DOWN INTO HER CHAIR!



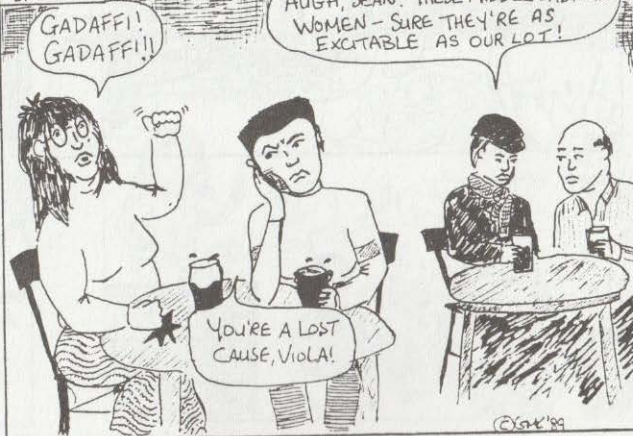
MM's ELOQUENT FERVOUR HAS BEEN ENHANCED BY SEVERAL LONG, COOL PINTS - VIOLA'S PARANOIA SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN ENHANCED TOO!

SO YOU'RE A DYKE - WHAT'S TO BE ASHAMED OF? - THIS IS THE 1990'S - BE STRONG, LIKE ME....

SSSSSH!!



INSPIRATION STRIKES + VIOLA'S INTEGRITY IN 'HET-LAND' IS SAVED!!



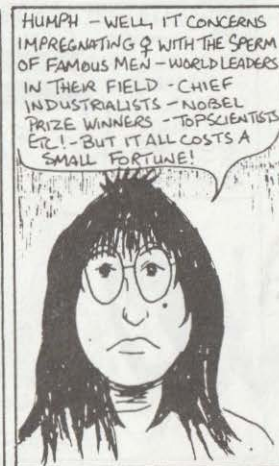
# MANIC MOTHERS





# SAPPHO ♀ WOMAN + 'THE GREAT SPERM BANK RAID!!'





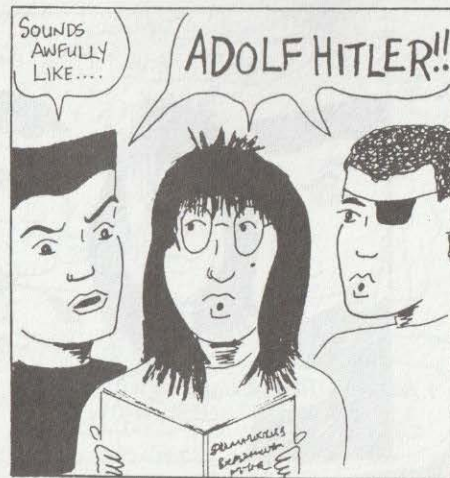




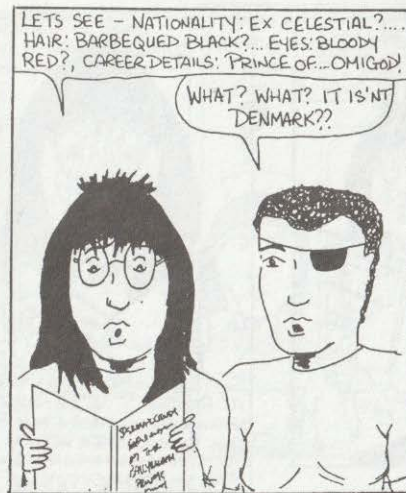












WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO PENNY? WILL SHE BE RESCUED? CAN HER FRIENDS REACH HER IN TIME? WILL THE CLINIC STILL GET 5 STARS IN PENNY'S ARTICLE? IS COMATOSE REALLY RECOMMENDED BY THE GREEK TOURIST BOARD? + WILL PEARLEND UP WITH 'DISHMOP' HANDS? THESE QUESTIONS + MANY MORE ARE COMPLETELY IGNORED IN PART TWO OF THIS STORY....  
PENNY IN PERIL!!!

# MOYAS DREAM!





# SAPPHO ♀ WOMAN + PENNY IN PERIL!!









BUT PENNY'S FEARS ARE UNFOUNDED..



THEY FLEE THROUGH THE STREETS OF BELFAST



THEY NIP THROUGH BLACKSTAFF SQUARE...



JUST AS THEY CLAMBER ONTO  
THE BENCH... PC SCUM ARRIVES!!



DON'T MOVE AN INCH!







OVER AT THE CLINIC GATES...

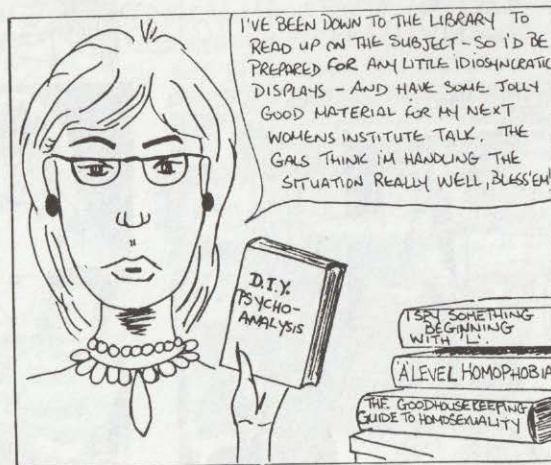


THE END - OR IS IT???

IS PENNY POSSESSED?  
 WHY WOULD A VEGETARIAN LUST FOR RAW NUNS LIVER?  
 DOES SHE CARRY SATAN'S SEED?? - IS SHE A DEVIL POD?  
 WILL SHE + LUCRETIA GET TOGETHER NOW THEY HAVE MORE IN COMMON?? - + WHERE WOULD THEY FIND A VIRGIN ANYWAY???

YES!! - THERE'S MORE!!!

# MANIC MOTHERS





# 'PENNY POSSESSED!!'







THE NEW PENNY HAS VOLUNTEERED  
TO HELP OUT AT THE LOCAL CHILDREN'S  
HOME IN HER SPARE TIME, BETWEEN  
BAKING BATCHES OF FUDGE + TEACHING  
BUDGIES TO SING DOWN AT THE 'HELP  
THE AGED' CENTRE!

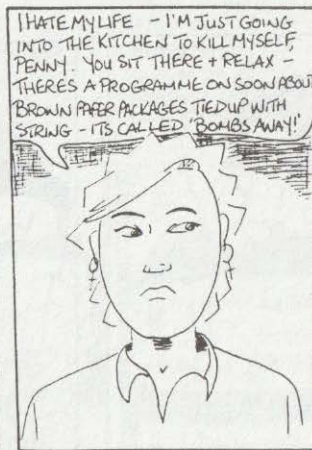


THAT EVENING... A COLD WIND  
SWIRLS IN FROM THE EAST AS  
DARKNESS FALLS. SUDDENLY,  
AS THE LAST RAYS OF THE  
SETTING SUN PERISH -

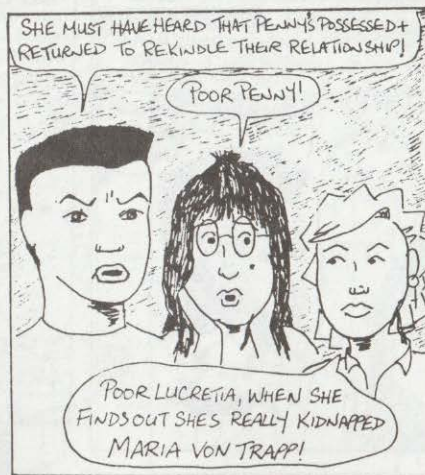


- FLUTTING ACROSS THE WAN  
FACE OF THE FULL MOON, A  
LONE, GRACEFUL, BLACK...

**BAT!!**

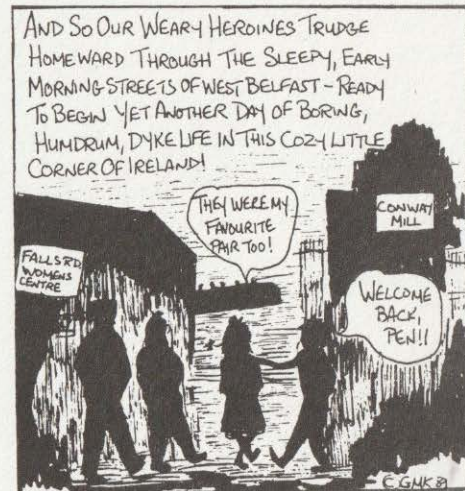






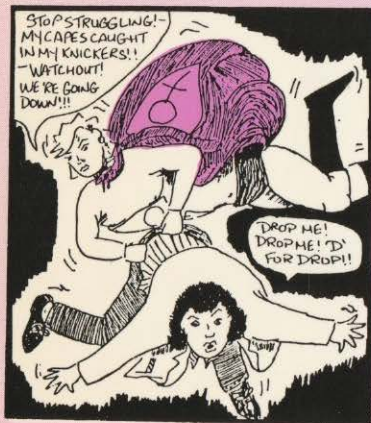






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